

Remarks

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated March 18, 1999, applicants have canceled claims 21-52 in favor of new claims 53-114. Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing applicants to elect claims directed to polynucleotides, rather than the polypeptide and method claims previously pending.

Claims 53-114 find support in the claims as originally filed and throughout the specification. Particularly, support for independent claims 53, 60, 68, 75, 81, 87 and the depending claims, can be found, for example, on page 5 and page 19, lines 1-2. These claims differ from the issued claims in U.S. Patent No. 5,747,280, for example, in that they do not recite a “% identity” limitation. Support for claims 93-94 can be found, for example, on page 12, lines 18-19. Support for claim 101 and the depending claims can be found, for example, on 4 and page 19. Support for claim 108 and the depending claims can be found, for example, on page 6, lines 5-6, page 30, Example 5, and page 9, lines 7-9. Thus, no new matter has been entered by way of the amendment.

Applicants respectfully suggest that the new claims are similar to the claims allowed in the parent case, U.S. Patent No. 5,747,280, to which this case claims priority, and co-pending application 08/849,107. Applicants believe that this case is in condition for allowance, and respectfully request a favorable decision.


Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, applicants believe that this application is now in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 08-3425. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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